

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/030,606

Examiner

MINH-TAM DAVIS

Applicant(s)

XU ET AL.

Art Unit

1642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview of 08/17/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 23, 35, renumbered as 1-2.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey Hundley on 08/17/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification.

The continuation data were updated as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/020,747, filed February 9, 1998 (Attorney Docket No. 210121.428C2), now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/904,809, filed August 1, 1997, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/806,596, filed February 25, 1997, now abandoned.

In the claims.

Claim 23 was amended as follows:

Claim 23. (Amended) A method for detecting prostate cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) obtaining a biological sample from the patient;

(b) contacting the sample with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotides primers are

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specific for nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEQ ID NO:110 and full length complements of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEQ ID NO:110; and

(c) detecting in the sample an expressed polynucleotide sequence that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers thereby detecting prostate cancer, wherein the biological sample is selected from the group consisting of blood and semen; ~~and~~ wherein the oligonucleotide primers consist of fragments of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEQ ID NO:110; and wherein the fragments consist of at least about 10 contiguous nucleotides of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEQ ID NO:110, or full length complements of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEQ ID NO:110.

Claim 35 was amended as follows:

Claim ~~35~~¹. (Amended) A method for detecting the presence of an expressed polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 110 in a biological sample, the method comprising:

(a) contacting the sample with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein the oligonucleotide primers are specific for nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEQ ID NO:110 and full length complements of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEQ ID NO:110; and

(c) detecting in the sample an expressed polynucleotide sequence that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers thereby

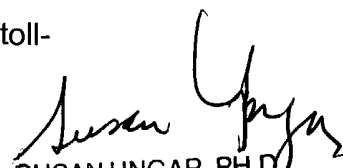
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detecting prostate cancer, wherein the biological sample is selected from the group consisting of blood and semen; ~~and~~ wherein the oligonucleotide primers consist of fragments of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEO ID NO:1 10; and wherein the fragments consist of at least about 10 contiguous nucleotides of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEO ID NO:1 10, or full length complements of nucleotide residues 1341-2694 of SEO ID NO:110.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MINH-TAM DAVIS whose telephone number is 571-272-0830. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JEFFREY SIEW can be reached on 571-272-0787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


SUSAN UNGAR, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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MINH TAM DAVIS

August 18, 2004